

NOTICE OF OPEN MEETING

AGENDA

20th Meeting

DATE: Tuesday, December 21, 2010

TIME: 9:00 a.m.

PLACE: Rhode Island Ethics Commission

Hearing Room - 8th Floor

40 Fountain Street

Providence, RI 02903

1. Motion to approve minutes of Open Session held on November 9, 2010.

2. Advisory Opinions:

a.) Steven M. Costantino, a legislator serving in the Rhode Island House of Representatives, requests an advisory opinion regarding

whether, upon the expiration of his term of office, he may accept an appointment by the Governor of Rhode Island to serve in the position of Secretary of Health and Human Services.

b.) Wallace Gernt, a member of the Rhode Island Health Services Council, requests an advisory opinion regarding whether his membership on the Health Services Council conflicts with his private consulting work for the Thomas C. Slater Compassion Center, Inc. (TCS), given that TCS is applying to the Department of Health for registration as a Medical Marijuana Compassion Center.

c.) Vincent F. Ragosta, Jr., a member of the East Greenwich Personnel Board, requests an advisory opinion regarding his ability, as a private attorney, to represent the Town of East Greenwich in disciplinary proceedings against a Town police officer.

d.) Gary P. Cote, Chairman of the Coventry Fire District Board of Directors, who is also a member-elect of the Coventry Town Council, requests an advisory opinion as to whether the Code of Ethics places any restrictions upon his ability to serve as both an elected member of the Town Council and an elected member of the Coventry Fire District Board of Directors.

e.) Samuel D. Zurier, Esq., a member-elect of the Providence City Council, requests an advisory opinion as to whether, upon taking office, the Code of Ethics would permit his continued representation

of the Providence Water Supply Board in pending litigation.

f.) Robert Coulter, a Tiverton Town Council member, requests an advisory opinion regarding his ability to take part in Town Council discussions and voting relative to litigation, taxation and personnel issues, given his prior involvement in tax appeals and litigation against the Town and certain of its officials.

g.) Dawson Hodgson, a member-elect of the Rhode Island Senate, requests an advisory opinion as to whether he may simultaneously serve as a member of the North Kingstown Harbor Management Commission, a municipal appointed position.

h.) Gordon R. Bouchard, R.N., B.S.N., the Director of Nurses at the Rhode Island Department of Corrections, requests an advisory opinion regarding whether he may attend informational dinner events sponsored by pharmaceutical companies.

3. Motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-46-5(a)(2)

and (4), to wit:

a.) Motion to approve minutes of Executive Session held on November 9, 2010.

b.) In re: Vincent J. Polisena,

Complaint No. 2010-10

c.) Status Update:

Joseph S. Larisa, Jr. v. Rhode Island Ethics Commission, Supreme Court No. 10-280-M.P.

d.) Motion to return to Open Session.

4. Motion to seal minutes of Executive Session held on December 21, 2010.

5. Report on actions taken in Executive Session.

6. Commission Discussion re: Probable Cause.

7. Commission Discussion re: Treatment of Members of Umbrella Unions/Professional Organizations.

8. Review and approval of tentative 2011 Commission meeting schedule.

9. Director's Report.

a.) Docket Status Update.

10. New Business proposed for future Commission agendas and

general comments from the Commission.

11. Adjournment.

ANYONE WISHING TO ATTEND THIS MEETING WHO MAY HAVE SPECIAL NEEDS FOR ACCESS OR SERVICES SUCH AS A SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETER, PLEASE CONTACT THE COMMISSION AT 222-3790 (V), 48 HOURS IN ADVANCE OF THE SCHEDULED MEETING. THE COMMISSION ALSO MAY BE CONTACTED THROUGH RHODE ISLAND RELAY, A TELECOMMUNICATIONS RELAY SERVICE, AT 1-800-RI5-555.

Posted on December 16, 2010